

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the Specification paragraphs rewritten below and having all additions underlined and all deletions shown by strike-through or by double brackets.

On page 1, please replace the paragraph starting on line 18 with the words "The print in" and ending on line 24 with the words "operator(s) is greater" with the following amended paragraph:

61 --The print in different sizes and at different positions makes the known cutting systems unusable. The cutting operation is then usually carried out with manual means (cutters, etc.) or semiautomatic means which require of the operator the optical/manual alignment on the cutting line of the gap between the prints. This implies the need for [[a]] continuous attention with a possibility of error and a significant waste of time, this drawback being so ~~much~~ serious as because the amount of time spent ~~material to be treated~~ by the operator(s) to treat the material is greater.--

On page 1, please replace the paragraph starting on line 28 with the words "Among the attempts" and ending on line 36 with the words "in single sheets" with the following amended paragraph:

62 --Among the attempts of solution provided in the prior art, ~~the US patent n. 5.586.479~~ U.S. Patent No. 5,586,479 discloses a device for cutting images printed on substrates in sheets not parallel to the sides of the substrates. This prior patent deals with the problem of defining the cut along the edge of the print even when there are no evident optical contrast between the substrate and the image by creating, though [[a]] suitable software, small back marks upstream from the copy. The optical sensors are provided at the side of the substrate and thus the latter must be guided and the sensors' arrangement and position has to be changed at every change in the size, which is particularly disadvantageous when the substrate is made in single sheets.--

On page 2, please replace the paragraph starting on line 6 with the words "Also the US" and ending on line 13 with the words "opacity is constant" with the following amended paragraph:

6^B
--Also the US patent n. ~~5.079.981~~ U.S. Patent No. 5,079,981 relates to an automatic cutting device, in particular for transparent substrates with automatic alignment of the blade on the substrate thanks to two sensors which detect at two different points the transparency/opacity threshold between substrate and image. The time lag between the two signals is converted by a processor into a number of pulses which are used to correct the cutting angle. However, this solution can only be used to trim and cut copies enclosed one by one into a transparent film, while it is clearly useless for separating copies within a larger size where the opacity is constant.--

On page 2, please delete the paragraph starting on line 19 with the words "This object is" and ending on line 20 with the words "in claim 1."

On page 2, please replace the paragraph starting on line 34 with the words "Fig.1 shows a" and ending on line 35 with the words "its normal operation" with the following amended paragraph:

64
--~~Fig.1~~ Fig. 1 shows a diagrammatic top plan view of an automatic cutting device according to the present invention, during its normal operation;--

On pages 2-3, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 36 of page 2 with the words "Figs.2a and 2b show the" and ending on line 1 of page 3 with the words "the feed direction" with the following amended paragraph:

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--~~Figs.2a and 2b~~ Figs. 2a and 2b show the device of fig.1 in operation, with the cutting assembly inclined at opposite angles with respect to the feed direction.--

On page 3, please replace the paragraph starting on line 15 with the words "The device according" and ending on line 23 with the words "third motor 5" with the following amended paragraph:

56 --The device according to the present invention provides at least a pair of rollers 2 for the feed of the paper strip 1, a first motor 3 for driving the rollers, a reading system consisting of two optical sensors 4, 4' for the optical reflection detection of the boundary line M between the copies, a mobile cutting assembly 7, a second motor 9 for driving the mobile cutting assembly, a third motor 5 for changing the orientation thereof with respect to the rollers 2 so as to ~~take~~ make the mobile cutting assembly in alignment with the mark M, and a microprocessor (~~not shown~~) 12 which processes the signal from the reading system and transmits it to the third motor 5.--

On page 4, please replace the paragraph starting on line 30 with the words "A device according" and ending on line 35 with the words "the cutting assembly" with the following amended paragraph:

57 --A device according to the present invention can also be easily provided wherein the orientation of the cutting assembly is fixed whereas the angle of the axis of the feed rollers is adjustable, for example under action of the so-called third motor 5 on the same feed rollers, the axes of which are pivotally mounted, still in ~~order to take~~ order to make the marking lines M in alignment with the blades 14a and 14b of the cutting assembly.--
